**Human Rights Council Advisory Committee**

**Questionnaire on the impact of new technologies for climate protection on the enjoyment of human rights [[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Core questions (for all stakeholders)**

1. Which new technologies for climate protection (NTCP) are of particular importance when it comes to impact on human rights? List three most relevant and explain your choice.

**Cloud Seeding**, a method of weather modification: Seeding agents are dispersed into clouds in a controlled manner. These materials then alter microphysical processes within the cloud, for example by providing additional condensation nuclei or altering relative humidity by introducing hygroscopic particles. These techniques can be used to increase or decrease precipitation (rain- or snowfall) in a certain area. Cloud seeding can also be applied to suppress or mitigate hail.

**Stratospheric aerosol injection (SAI),** a type of solar radiation modification (SRM), has the potential to reduce global warming caused by excessive greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. There is currently a record high concentration of CO2 the leading greenhouse gas in the atmosphere. Currently, the world economy emits roughly 40 Gt of CO2 per year, emissions are still rising, and about 10Gt are naturally removed by ecosystems. Impacts from climate change are already visible, and the problem only threatens to get worse. While SAI would not reduce the actual atmospheric concentrations of atmospheric greenhouse gases, it would cool the planet, thereby alleviating some negative consequences of global temperature rise. It could be used to ‘shave a peak’ of temperature increase and climate impacts, buying time to address the underlying causes.

**Marine Cloud Brightening (MCB),** Marine cloud brightening refers to an albedo modification technique that aims to increase the reflectivity, and possibly even the lifetimes, of certain clouds in order to reflect more sunlight back into space and partially offset some of the impacts of climate change.

1. What kind of NTCP may contribute to human rights promotion and protection? Please, explain how.

NTCP mentioned above are few examples of how technology can be used as a powerful tool for human rights are ever expanding. Newer technologies have the potential to make significant positive contributions to the promotion and protection of human rights. As an young individual from the most driest and most climate impacted please on the surface of the earth, the Middle East country, we use new NTCP like cloud seeding technology to supplement the country's water insecurity, which stems from the extremely hot climate. This not only help people to survive but also provide better security and stability. Going back to the region margined by lot of international wars and instability, having proper water is one of the keys for the region, one of the reasons for the onset of war I Syria was failed farm land cause of low water influenced by climate change and also human factor of poor management. Hence this not only project from human rights but also provide dignified life for many in the most vulnerable regions in the world.

1. What are the key human rights challenges and risks arising from NTCP and from which in particular? Do NTCP create unique and unprecedented challenges or risks, or are there earlier precedents that help us understand the issue area?

NTCP can over weigh betterment then risk posed. I believe if implemented with necessary policy and law it will of great opportunity to help mitigate any climate impacts and also any human rights issues arising. We need to see transboundary impacts if a raised during any cross-border initiative, study long-term positive or negative impacts from using any NTCP projects. I believe there won’t be any direct impact on the use of NTCP’s unless there are not controlled and if not commercialized.

1. What specific human rights may be affected by the use of NTCP? Please, explain how. Who are the rights-holders that potentially would be the most affected by the use of NTCP? Are they also the most affected by climate change? How could they and the society at large be engaged in the decision-making process?

Well, as mentioned above NTCP won’t be any direct impacts on community, the whole idea of using the NTCP is to prevent any adverse impacts on the climate and directly accepting most vulnerable community. The idea is to make the right laws to prevent any adverse impacted find any accountable. Humanity always serviced and progressed. for all these technologies, one of the main challenges is to ensure that they serve those in greatest need – the developing countries and most vulnerable communities, particularly those who live and work in close contact with the natural environment and who stand to lose most, and perhaps even their livelihoods, when ecological resources are under threat.

1. Is the existing international and your national human rights framework adequate to safeguarding human rights of those affected by the use of NTCP? Why or why not? If not, what principles may be identified in order to address the gaps? List them according to priority.

I endorse the need for a transdisciplinary research program focused on MCB and other solar climate interventions. However, climate intervention research currently lacks a comprehensive framework to objectively produce and assess the information needed for sound decision-making. This is attributable in part to a lack of formal national or international research programs and governance. Without such a framework, future research investments are at risk of being unbalanced or misguided and thus failing to efficiently produce and disseminate policy-relevant knowledge in a timely manner. When considering the feasibility of a given climate intervention, we need to determine the key questions that require the most work. And we need criteria for terminating research on non-viable proposals.

1. Given that NTCP may present potential risks for the enjoyment of human rights, to what extent do human rights legal obligations require the States to pursue other climate protection policies presenting less risks of harm, including mitigation and adaptation measures?

It is now beyond dispute that climate change caused by human activity has negative impacts on the full enjoyment of human rights. Climate change has profound impacts on a wide variety of human rights, including the rights to life, self-determination, development, food, health, water and sanitation and housing. Climate change is thus having a direct and adverse impact on fundamental rights and hu-man rights that are enshrined in international conventions and often also in national constitutions. We need our government and UN bodies be prepared to make sure any human rights legal obligation can be dealt with. It is now generally agreed that human rights impose an obligation on states to not only respect these rights but also to protect and fulfil them. For human rights to be infringed, it is thus not necessary for the state itself to interfere with people’s rights through its own actions: in principle an infringement can also occur if the state fails in its duty to protect people against infringements by third parties. The UN’s Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights confirm that states have a duty to protect human rights against threats from economic actors, while economic actors have a duty to respect human rights. Furthermore, there is a right to compensation if human rights are infringed by the actions of economic actors.

1. As opposed to focusing on selected few technologies, do you think a holistic and inclusive approach will help reduce any gaps in the existing system for addressing human rights challenges from NTCP?

In the case of climate change, which poses a direct threat to several human rights, the state therefore has a duty to take active steps to avert climate change. The state must as far as possibly prevent adverse impacts on human rights and ensure that all people are enabled to adapt to climate change in the best possible way. Although existing research has begun to address all of these themes, there are still long and arduous ways ahead. Although our discussion of next steps below is focused primarily on research activities within the particular countries, we need to find a holistic and global inclusive way to address the human rights aspect. In particular, adequately resourced partnerships, exchanges, and other capacity-building measures with nations and communities traditionally underserved by the global research enterprise will be critical for climate intervention research to achieve legitimacy.

1. What should be the responsibilities of key stakeholders (UN agencies, states, NHRIs, civil society, technical community and academia, private sector) in mitigating the risks of NTCP to human rights and/or fostering its protection?

I believe the UN, states and other civil society needs to be active and monitor results, impacts and do stakeholders consultations find any issues as well as clear the air around any negative as well as positive impacts. We also need to see if these agencies can be help make sure any issues to tackled.

**Specific questions for civil society organizations**

1. Please describe the relevant work that your organization has done on the issue of NTCP and human rights. What are the key accomplishments? What challenges has your organization faced?

As Middle East regional organisations we are key to see technology to secure our future and current generation from any issues posed by climate change, form increased temperature to water security.

1. Should your organization be involved in the use of the NTCP (for instance, in a monitoring role) how would it contribute to the assessment of human rights impacts and ensuring its protection?
2. What will be the impact of NTCP on the enjoyment of human rights in the field that your organization covers? What are the main human rights challenges that these technologies pose? Is the international human rights framework well equipped to address them? What are the policy gaps in national policies? What actions at national and international level would be required in order to effectively address these challenges?
3. How should the rights to access information, to participate in environmental decision-making and to access to remedy be applied in the context of NTCP-related research, experimentation, development and deployment?
4. How do you evaluate citizens’ awareness of the potential impact of NTCP on human rights? Does your organization have a roadmap to enhance public awareness of the issue?
5. What are the means to ensure meaningful public participation in the debate and decision-making process over the use and potential risks of NTCP, particularly of those most vulnerable or affected?

1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)